Amendments to the Claims:

1. (amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising

(i) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

(ii) a variant thereof having substantially similar function selected from immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumour activity; [[or]]

(iii) a fragment of (i) or (ii) which retains substantially similar function selected from immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumor activity[[.]]; or

(iv) a variant or fragment of the polypeptide of (i) suitable for raising specific antibodies for said polypeptide and/or a naturally-occurring variant thereof.

2. (original) An isolated polypeptide according to claim 1 comprising an amino acid sequence having more than 98% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 over the full length of SEQ ID NO:2.

3. (canceled)

4. (amended) A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1[[, 2 or 3]].

5. (original) A polynucleotide as claimed in claim 4 which is a cDNA.

6. (amended) A polynucleotide ~~encoding a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 or 2,~~ as claimed in claim 4, which polynucleotide comprises:

(a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or the coding sequence thereof and/or a sequence complementary thereto;

(b) a sequence which hybridises to a sequence as defined in (a);

(c) a sequence that is degenerate as a result of the genetic code to a sequence as defined in (a) or (b); or

(d) a sequence having at least 60% identity to a sequence as defined in (a), (b) or (c).

Claims 7-26 canceled.

27. (new) A composition of matter selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an expression vector comprising a polynucleotide sequence which is capable of expressing a polypeptide, where the polypeptide comprises:

(i) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(ii) a variant thereof having substantially similar function selected from immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumor activity; or

(iii) a fragment of (i) or (ii) which retains substantially similar function selected from immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumor activity,

(b) a host cell containing an expression vector of (a);

(c) an antibody specific for a polypeptide as defined in (a);

(d) a pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide as defined in (a) and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent;

(e) a pharmaceutical composition comprising a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide as defined in (a) and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent;

(f) a polynucleotide capable of expressing *in vivo* an antisense sequence to a coding sequence for the amino acid sequence defined by SEQ ID NO:2 or a naturally-occurring

variant of said coding sequence for use in therapeutic treatment of a human or non-human animal;

(g) a set of primers for nucleic acid amplification which target sequences within a cDNA encoding a polypeptide as defined in (a);

(h) a nucleic acid probe derived from a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide as defined in (a); and

(i) a non-human transgenic animal capable of expressing a polypeptide as defined in (a).

28. (new) A composition of matter according to claim 27(h) wherein the probe is attached to a solid support.

29. (new) A method selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a method of treating a patient having a Type 1 interferon treatable disease, which comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide comprises:

(i) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(ii) a variant thereof having substantially similar function selected from immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumor activity; or

(iii) a fragment of (i) or (ii) which retains substantially similar function selected from immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumor activity,

(b) a method of treating a patient having a Type 1 interferon treatable disease, which comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide as defined in (a);

(c) a method of producing a polypeptide as defined in (a), which method comprises culturing host cells containing an expression vector comprising a polynucleotide sequence which is capable of expressing said polypeptide under conditions suitable for obtaining expression of the polypeptide and isolating the said polypeptide;

(d) a method of identifying a compound having immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumour activity comprising providing a cell capable of expressing the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2 or a naturally-occurring variant thereof, incubating said cell with a compound under test and monitoring for upregulation of the gene encoding said polypeptide or variant; and

(e) a method of predicting responsiveness of a patient to treatment with a Type 1 interferon, which comprises determining the level of the protein defined by the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or a naturally-occurring variant thereof, or the corresponding mRNA, in a cell sample from said patient, wherein said sample is obtained from said patient following administration of a Type 1 interferon or is treated prior to said determining with a Type 1 interferon *in vitro*.

30. (new) A method as claimed in claim 29 wherein the interferon administered prior to obtaining said sample or used to treat said sample *in vitro* is the interferon proposed for treatment of said patient.

31. (new) A method as claimed in claim 29 wherein a sample comprising peripheral blood mononuclear cells isolated from a blood sample of the patient is treated with a Type 1 interferon *in vitro*.

32. (new) A method as claimed claim 29 wherein said determining comprises determining the level of mRNA encoding the protein defined by the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or a naturally-occurring variant of said protein.